

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the finding of allowability in claim 22 and respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 12 and 37 of the subject application.

Claim Amendments

Claims 1-37 were previously pending.

Claims 12 and 37 are amended.

Claims 1-11, 13-21 and 23-36 have been canceled without prejudice.

No new claims are added.

Claims 12, 22, and 37 are pending.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2

The Office rejects claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Office states the claim limitation “the grammar associated with the grammar” in line 14 is unclear.

The Applicant submits the following remarks and amendments to claim 12. For convenience of discussion, the Applicant reproduces here amended claim 12:

Claim 12

Claim 12, as amended, defines a speech system, including:

- a speech engine configured to recognize commands from a user and make announcements to the user;

- a speech server having a speech server interface through which multiple speech-enabled applications communicate with the speech system, and a speech application programming interface through which the speech server communicates with the speech engine, wherein the speech server manages concurrent processing of interactions submitted by the speech-enabled applications while allowing each speech-enabled application to utilize a different speech recognition grammar;

- a grammar table for each grammar used by the speech-enabled applications, each grammar table containing one or more grammar attributes for the grammar with which it associated; and

- wherein a static flag value specifying a grammar attribute in a grammar table, when set, indicates that the grammar associated with the grammar table is a static grammar that cannot be changed after the grammar table is stored in the speech system.

The Applicant submits that the above revisions to claim 12 are fully supported under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, at least by page 23, lines 7-12; page 26, lines 22-24; and Figure 8b of the Applicant's Specification.

Applicant submits current amendments to claim 12 overcome the Office's 35 U.S.C. §112 ¶2 rejection to the claim. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claim 12.

Claim 22

Applicant appreciates the finding of allowability in claim 22.

Claim Objections

The Office objects to and requires correction of claim 37 because the claim refers to an acronym, SAPI, without providing a complete definition or description at the first instance of the term.

The Applicant submits the following remarks and amendments to claim 37. For convenience of discussion, the Applicant reproduces here portions of amended claim 37:

Claim 37 defines a speech server interface, including:

“...

an advise SAPI event method used to pass in a sink that is called when an event that is advised for occurs, wherein SAPI is a speech application programming interface which enables a speech server in the speech system to communicate with a speech engine;

an unadvise SAPI event method used to let the speech system know that a sink used with the advise SAPI event method is no longer interested in SAPI events...”

The Applicant submits that the above revisions to claim 37 are fully supported under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, at least by page 11, lines 5-10 of the Applicant's Specification.

Applicant submits current amendments to claim 37 overcome the Office's objection to the claim regarding the acronym SAPI. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claim 37.

CONCLUSION

Applicant is grateful for the finding of allowability in claim 22 and respectfully suggests that claims 12 and 37 are now in condition for allowance. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 5-8-06

By: 

Lee & Hayes PLLC

Mark C. Farrell

Reg. No. 45,988

(509) 324-9256